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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Item 178 of the provisional agenda*
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 27 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the latest incidents in the ongoing campaign of terror being perpetrated against Israeli civilians.

At approximately 10 p.m. local time, Palestinian gunmen opened fire on an Israeli vehicle traveling north from Jerusalem. Ronen Landau, age 17, who was traveling in the car with his father and brother, sustained a gunshot wound to the head. He was pronounced dead a few minutes later. The father and brother were treated for shock.

Several minutes earlier, Palestinian gunmen, apparently the same ones who killed Ronen Landau, opened fire on a group of teens in a playground in the nearby Israeli community of Givon. Two of the youths went into shock.

Several other attacks occurred yesterday targeting Israeli soldiers and civilians in a number of different locations, including a roadside bomb that exploded near a bus transporting schoolchildren.

These attacks are merely the latest in a continuous campaign of Palestinian terrorism that has been detailed in my letters dated, 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001 (A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-

* A/56/150

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S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

The murder of Ronen Landau brings to 136 the total number of Israelis killed by Palestinian terrorists since September 2000.

These attacks serve only to jeopardize Israel's continued attempts to implement the terms of the Tenet cease-fire. Israel continues to exercise restraint despite the fact that there have been over 700 separate attacks since the cease-fire went into effect. Israel still awaits any signs of significant action on the part of the Palestinians to prevent such attacks and restore an environment of calm and security.

Israel once again calls on the Palestinian leadership to uphold its fundamental commitment to abandon the use of violence and terrorism as a means to achieve its political aims.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under item 178 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/56/226–S/2001/746

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Items 53, 99 and 178 of the provisional agenda*

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

The situation in the Middle East

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism

Note verbale dated 30 July 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to annex herewith the reply of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Israeli allegations as stated in document A/56/161-S/2001/673.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 53, 99 and 178 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

* A/56/150.

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Annex to the note verbale dated 30 July 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

Letter dated 30 July 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to call your attention to the series of allegations made in the letter dated 6 July 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to you (A/56/161-S/2001/673).

This letter is part of an aggressive campaign being waged by Israel to mislead world public opinion and obscure the massacres and acts of terrorism it perpetrates on a daily basis against the Palestinian people, whose only offence is to have demanded the most basic human right to exercise self-determination and establish an independent State on its own soil. The letter also seeks to distract attention from Israel's daily violations, on land, at sea and in the air, of Lebanon's territorial integrity and from the two unwarranted acts of aggression that Israeli aircraft committed against positions of the Syrian Arab forces operating in Lebanon, inflicting casualties on them.

As it continues to occupy the Lebanese Shab'a farmlands, Israel argues in its letter that it has withdrawn from southern Lebanon and has implemented Security Council resolution 425 (1978) in full.

Lebanon has declared on all possible occasions that the relevant international covenants give it the right to take action to free its territory of Israeli occupation. At the Arab Summit Conference recently held in Amman, Jordan, the leaders of the Arab States expressed their full support for Lebanon in liberating the Shab'a farmlands. In this context, the Lebanese national resistance is exercising its natural right, as guaranteed by the relevant international covenants, to take action to liberate the remaining Lebanese territory from which Israel has yet to withdraw. This is a right that all of the peoples of Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America that have endured occupation have exercised in order to end foreign occupation of their territory, assert their sovereignty and defend the dignity of their people.

It is natural that Syria should support the Lebanese cause, and it is with Lebanon in seeking the restoration of all of its territory. The Israeli Government is fully aware of the fact that Hizb Allah is a Lebanese party that operates in Lebanese territory, enjoys the support of the Lebanese people and does not receive instructions from Syria.

The Lebanese Government has responded to Israeli attempts at deception in many of the letters it has addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It charged Israel with responsibility for inflaming the civil war, just as the international community has held it responsible for the Sabra and Shatilla massacres, the Qana massacre and the destruction of Lebanon's infrastructure. In connection with Syria's role, it must be said that Syrian forces entered Lebanon in response to a request from the legally constituted Lebanese authorities and indeed

preserved the unity of Lebanon's territory and people and quenched the fires of the civil war that Israel had assiduously fanned. Syria has constantly affirmed its commitment to the unity and sovereignty of the land and people of Lebanon, while Israel's violations of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity have been condemned by the international community in many General Assembly resolutions.

Syria's conduct has always been in full harmony with international law and with respect for the Charter of the United Nations and the Organization's resolutions. It has made the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace its strategy. Israel, on the other hand, has scattered millions of Palestinians since 1948, has displaced more than half a million persons as a result of its occupation of the Syrian Golan and has refused to comply with the relevant United Nations resolutions. It therefore has no right to speak of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Israel is the only State that the United Nations regards as an occupying Power, it is the only one that practices occupation by settlement, and it is the only one that is in flagrant violation of numerous norms of public international law and international humanitarian law. It is the only State that is in violation of dozens of resolutions adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly, including Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), and it still refuses to comply with them or to cooperate in any of the efforts being made for their implementation.

Israel's attempts to invert facts and distort positions have not stopped there, and its arrogance has reached the extreme of open and provocative intervention against the consensus position of the Asian Group, which has endorsed the candidature of the Syrian Arab Republic for membership of the Security Council, and against the support this candidature has received. It is well known that, as a member of the Security Council in the periods 1947-1948 and 1970-1971, Syria performed its duties responsibly and with respect for the Charter. Syria is aware that its membership of the Security Council would involve responsible work and a direct contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security.

In closing, we should like to affirm that Syria has opened the door to the peace process in the Middle East and has made a just and comprehensive peace its strategic choice. It will continue its efforts to spare the region from being dragged into a devastating war, one for which the Prime Minister of Israel is planning in order to finish off what remains of the peace process.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 53, 99 and 178 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Fayssal **Mekdad**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

United Nations A/56/227

General Assembly

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Fifty-sixth session
Item 138 of the provisional agenda*
Human resources management

Amendments to the Staff Rules

Report of the Secretary-General**

Summary

As requested by staff regulation 12.3, the present report provides the full text of amendments to the Staff Rules, some of which have been provisionally promulgated in accordance with staff regulation 12.2. The Secretary-General intends to implement the amendments that have not been so promulgated as from 1 January 2002. The present report provides the rationale for every amendment included therein.

The General Assembly is requested to take note of the amendments to the Staff Rules contained in the annex to the present report.

* A/56/150.

** Submission of the present report was delayed to allow for completion of the staff consultation process on the proposed amendments.

01-47713 (E) 230801

1. Staff regulation 12.3 provides that the full text of provisional staff rules and amendments should be reported annually to the General Assembly.

2. Unless otherwise indicated, the proposed amendments contained in the annex to the present report will be effective as from 1 January 2002.

A. 100 series

3. Rule 103.20, Education grant, is amended by adding to paragraph (g) a sentence excepting from the obligation to prorate the amount of the grant when a staff member who has one or more children in school dies while in service after the beginning of the school year.

4. Rule 104.14, Appointment and Promotion Board, is amended to implement the managed reassignment programme for Junior Professional staff in accordance with section III.D of General Assembly resolution 51/226, pending the coming into force of the revised rule on central review bodies, as amended by section VI of General Assembly resolution 55/258.

5. Rule 104.15, Competitive examinations, is amended to implement the managed reassignment programme for Junior Professional staff in accordance with section III.D of General Assembly resolution 51/226.

6. Rule 105.3, Home leave, is amended to allow a greater flexibility in the application of the requirement of a minimum stay in the home country, based on the need to take into account changes that have occurred in respect of mode of travel (always by air), composition of many families (frequently of several nationalities) and location of eligible family members, who often work, reside or go to school in different countries.

7. Rule 109.3, Notice of termination, is amended to clarify the computation of the amount to be paid in lieu of notice.

8. Rule 109.10, Last day for pay purposes, is amended to allow the entitlement to education grant to continue for the duration of a school year that has begun when a staff member dies while in service.

B. 200 series

9. Rule 203.8, Education grant, is amended by adding to paragraph (g) a sentence excepting from the obligation to prorate the amount of the grant when project personnel who have one or more children in school die while in service after the beginning of the school year.

10. Rule 206.7, Maternity leave, is amended to incorporate into the 200 series the amendment previously made to the corresponding provision in the 100 series in order to simplify the rule by deleting the proviso in paragraph (e), which postponed crediting of annual leave until six months had passed after return from maternity leave.

11. Rule 207.11, Travel on home leave, is amended to permit a greater flexibility in the application of the requirement of a minimum stay in the home country to take into account changes that have occurred since the rule was last amended in respect

of mode of travel (always by air), composition of many families (frequently of several nationalities) and location of eligible family members, who often work, reside or go to school in different countries.

12. Rule 209.4, Notice of termination, is amended to clarify the computation of the amount to be paid in lieu of notice.

13. Rule 209.11, Last day for pay purposes, is amended to allow the entitlement to education grant to continue for the duration of a school year that has begun when project personnel die while in service.

C. 300 series

14. Rule 309.3, Notice of termination, is amended to clarify the computation of the amount to be paid in lieu of notice.

15. Rule 309.6, Last day for pay purposes in case of death, the title of which is revised to read, Last day for pay purposes, is amended to simplify payment of travel days on separation.

Recommendation

16. **The Secretary-General recommends that the General Assembly take note of the amendments to the Staff Rules set out in the annex to the present report.**

Annex

Text of amendments to the Staff Rules

A. 100 series

Rule 103.20
Education grant

...

(g) The amount of the grant to be paid when the staff member's period of service or the child's school attendance does not cover the full school year shall be prorated under conditions to be defined by the Secretary-General. **No prorating shall be required when the staff member dies while in service after the beginning of the school year.**

Rule 104.14
Appointment and Promotion Board

(f) *Functions of the Appointment and Promotion Board*

...

(iv) Transfer or reassignment

Lateral transfers or reassignments of a probable duration of one year or more, **except in cases of mandatory reassignment under staff rule 104.15 (c).**

Rule 104.15
Competitive examinations

...

(c) Staff members appointed to the Professional level after a competitive examination shall be subject to mandatory reassignment, under conditions established by the Secretary-General.

Rule 105.3
Home leave

(a) Staff members regarded as international recruits under rule 104.7 (a) and not excluded from home leave under 104.7 (c), who are residing and serving outside their home country and who are otherwise eligible, shall be entitled once in every two years of qualifying service to visit their home country at United Nations expense for the purpose of spending in that country a **reasonable** period of annual leave. Leave taken for this purpose and under the terms and conditions set forth in this rule shall hereinafter be referred to as home leave.

...

(l) A staff member travelling on home leave shall be required to spend no less than **seven days**, exclusive of travel time, in his or her home country.

...

(amended provisionally as from 1 July 2001)

Rule 109.3
Notice of termination

(a) A staff member whose permanent appointment is to be terminated shall be given not less than three months' written notice of such termination.

(b) A staff member whose temporary appointment is to be terminated shall be given not less than thirty days' written notice of such termination or such written notice as may otherwise be stipulated in his or her letter of appointment.

(c) In lieu of the notice period, the Secretary-General may authorize compensation **equivalent to salary and applicable post adjustment and allowances corresponding to the relevant notice period, at the rate in effect on the last day of service.**

Rule 109.10
Last day for pay purposes

(a) When a staff member is separated from service, the date on which entitlement to salary, allowances and benefits shall cease shall be determined according to the following provisions:

...

(vi) In the case of death, the date on which entitlement to salary, allowances and benefits shall cease shall be the date of death, unless there is a surviving spouse or dependent child ...

All other entitlements and accrual of benefits shall cease as of the date of death, **except as provided by staff rule 103.20 (g) for payment of education grant when the staff member dies while in service after the beginning of the school year.**

B. 200 series

Rule 203.8
Education grant

...

(f) The amount of the grant to be paid when the project personnel's period of service or the child's school attendance does not cover the full school year shall be prorated under conditions to be defined by the Secretary-General. **No prorating shall be required when project personnel die while in service after the beginning of the school year.**

...

Rule 206.7
Maternity leave

...

(e) Annual leave shall accrue during the period of maternity leave.

Rule 207.11
Travel on home leave

...

(c) The grant of home leave shall be subject to the conditions that:

...

(iii) Project personnel shall remain in their home country for **no less than seven days, exclusive of travel time.**

...

(amended provisionally as from 1 July 2001)

Rule 209.4
Notice of termination

(a) Project personnel whose appointments are to be terminated prior to the expiration date specified in the letter of appointment shall be given not less than one month's written notice of termination or such notice as may otherwise be stipulated in their letters of appointment.

(b) In lieu of the notice period, the Secretary-General may authorize compensation **equivalent to salary and applicable post adjustment and allowances corresponding to the relevant notice period, at the rate in effect on the last day of service.**

Rule 209.11
Last day for pay purposes

(a) When project personnel are separated from service, the date on which entitlement to salary, allowances and benefits shall cease shall be determined according to the following provisions:

...

(v) In the case of death, the date on which entitlement to salary, allowances and benefits shall cease shall be the date of death, unless there is a surviving spouse or a dependent child ... All other entitlements and accrual of benefits shall cease as of the date of death, **except as provided by staff rule 203.8 (f) for payment of education grant when project personnel die while in service after the beginning of the school year.**

...

C. 300 series

Rule 309.3
Notice of termination

(a) Staff appointed under these Rules whose contracts are to be terminated prior to the specified expiration date shall be given not less than one week's written notice in the case of locally recruited staff members and two weeks' written notice

in the case of non-locally recruited staff members, or as otherwise provided in the letter of appointment.

(b) In lieu of the notice periods, the Secretary-General may authorize compensation **equivalent to salary and applicable allowances corresponding to the relevant notice period, at the rate in effect on the last day of service.**

Rule 309.6
Last day for pay purposes

(a) When separation of a staff member engaged under rule 301.1 (a) (ii) results from death occurring in the course of the appointment, entitlement to salary and emoluments shall cease as from the date of death. However, when there is a surviving spouse or one or more dependent children, a lump sum of three months' gross salary less staff assessment shall be paid to the surviving spouse and any dependent children, to be divided equally among those beneficiaries.

(b) Staff appointed under these rules who, under rule 304.5, are non-local recruits with an entitlement to return travel, shall be paid on separation a lump sum corresponding to the net salary and service allowance, where applicable, for the number of days of authorized travel, estimated on the basis of uninterrupted travel by an approved route and mode, from the duty station or the mission area to the place of entitlement to return travel.

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Item 129 of the provisional agenda*
Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Note by the Secretariat**

1. In its resolution 55/83 entitled "Measures to combat contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", the General Assembly requested the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session.

2. In view of the priority to be given to the preparation and the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 1 September 2001, the Special Rapporteur will present only an oral report on his activities since the last session of the General Assembly and submit a comprehensive report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth session, in March 2002.

* A/56/150.

** The footnote requested by the General Assembly in resolution 54/248 was not included in the submission.

01-47725 (E) 160801